

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044732
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DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:DCHARR/FMLC

APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB

EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL

EA:RHOLBROOKE

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 044732

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS:PFOR, VN, US

SUBJECT:U.S.-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION

REF: PARIS 5419

1. RE PREPARATORY MEETING IN PARIS FOR FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION VISIT, WE PREFER TO KEEP SUCH A MEETING INFORMAL AND TO LIMIT IT TO DEALING STRICTLY WITH ADVANCE LOGISTIC AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT. WE WISH TO AVOID THE MORE FORMAL AND SUBSTANTIVE APPEARANCE WHICH A REPETITION OF THE NOVEMBER 12 MEETING MIGHT GIVE. WE THEREFORE INTEND TO SEND EA/VLC COUNTRY DIRECTOR ROSENTHAL, WHO WILL HEAD THE STAFF ACCOMPANYING COMMISSION TO SOUTHEAST ASIA, TO MEET DIRECTLY WITH VIETNAMESE IN PARIS ON INFORMAL BASIS AND THEN RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO BRIEF COMMISSION

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 044732

AND PARTICIPATE IN FINAL PREPARATION FOR DEPARTURE.

2. EMBOFF SHOULD THEREFORE SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH SRV LIAISON OFFICER AND INFORM HIM THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED FOR A MEETING IN PARIS ON MARCH 5, 6, OR 7 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMISSION VISIT. WE PREFER EARLIER DATE. THE U.S. WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT THIS MEETING BY JAMES D. ROSEN-

THAL, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA AFFAIRS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND EMBOFF MARK PRATT. WE WOULD

BE WILLING TO HOST THIS MEETING AT OUR CHANCERY OR, IF IT
WOULD BE MORE CONVENIENT, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO COME TO
VIETNAMESE CHANCERY OR RESIDENCE FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

3. EMBOFF SHOULD INFORM VIETNAMESE THAT ROSENTHAL IS
CLOSELY INVOLVED IN PLANNING HERE FOR VISIT AND WILL HEAD
STAFF SUPPORT TRAVEL TO HANOI. HE WILL BE PREPARED TO DIS-
CUSS IN GENERAL TERMS THE AGENDA (WHICH WE REGARD AS
FOCUSSING RESOLUTION OF MIA ISSUE, BUT GENERALLY OPEN) AND
TECHNICAL QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN VISIT. HE WOULD NOT EXPECT
AT THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS SUBSTANCE OF ISSUES BETWEEN OUR
TWO COUNTRIES.

4. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT LIAISON OFFICER (PRATT - DO
THANH) WOULD BE SUBSEQUENT ONGOING CONTACT FOR RESOLUTION
OF ANY QUESTIONS LEFT UNANSWERED BY MEETING PROPOSED
ABOVE.

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Message Attributes

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